

**REMARKS**

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated June 24, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 24, 2004. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-20 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 1, 3-4, 10, 15-16 and 18 have been amended. Applicants submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Neal (US 6,711,154) in view of Pepe et al. (US 5,742,668). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The claims are directed to a handheld device having functionality substantially limited to communicating correspondence information between other devices proximate to handheld device. The mode of communication is a wireless channel established directly between the handheld device and another proximately located wireless device. Further, the handheld device includes a translator for reformatting the correspondence information into a format supported by the operating system of the receiving device. Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of O'Neal and Pepe is insufficient to support an obviousness rejection for a number of reasons.

For example, although O'Neal teaches converting message formats, the conversion is done by a ThinkLink interface 300 (Figure 3) that is geographically distributed. For example, Figure 3 shows the ThinkLink interface 300 comprising a first communications server 304 located in New York, a second communications server 320 located in Paris and a network operations center (NOC) 312 located in San Francisco. By definition, the ThinkLink interface 300 is not a handheld device. Therefore, because O'Neal does not teach, show or suggest a handheld wireless device configured to reformat correspondence information into a format supported by an operating system of a receiving wireless device, the rejection is believed to be improper and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

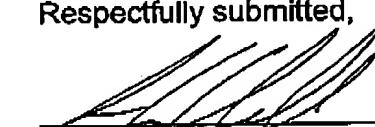
Further, the handheld device of the claims is a specific-purpose device having functionality limited essentially to communicating correspondence information between

other devices proximate to the handheld device. In stark contrast, the ThinkLink interface of O'Neal is a multifunction distributed system which includes at least a web server 422, a streaming audio converter 424, a text/speech converter 426, a mail server 428, a customer database 430 and a message notification 432. (See, 8:31-36.) Therefore, the rejection is believed to be improper and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicant believes that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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